Awesome agave for the BBQ

Finally, a barbecued chicken that's sweet without being cloying PAGE 10

SAND BLAST

ENGLAND SERVES UP A HOT NEW VENUE FOR OLYMPIC BEACH VOLLEYBALL, AND CANADA'S MARIE-ANDREE LESSARD COULDN'T BE HAPPIER PAGE 12

REGIONAL metro®

Wednesday, July 25, 2012

News worth sharing.

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Crime in province dropping, but still among highest in Canada

StatsCan. Report also finds crime rate in Canada at 40-year low

CARRIE-MAY SIGGINS
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A new Statistics Canada report shows Saskatchewan as having the second-highest homicide rate in the country, but it's not all bad news.

The report shows that in 2011, Saskatchewan was behind Manitoba and followed by Alberta in violent crime.

Saskatchewan and Manitoba also reported the highest rates of major assaults.

But the agency reports that nationally, fewer crimes were reported to police in 2011 than at any other time in the last 40 years.

That good news is reflected in the two largest Saskatchewan municipalities.

"There has been significant progress," said Regina police Chief Troy Hagen. Regina's total crime rate dropped three per cent from 2010, bringing it down to the lowest it's been since 1991. In the last 21 years, Regina's crime rate has fallen by 35 per cent.

Saskatoon has seen a similar reduction, according to that city's police chief, Clive Weighill. "We have 12,000 fewer victims than there was (in 2003). That's a dramatic decrease."

Winnipeg had the highest homicide rate among big cities last year, and Manitoba had the highest homicide rate among provinces for the fifth straight year.

WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

Crime drops over time

- Since 2005, the total rate of Criminal Code violations per 100,000 population has dropped 12.9 per cent in Saskatchewan. The same stat has dropped 30.22 and 27.75 per cent in Regina and Saskatoon, respectively.
- Looking year-to-year, the crime severity index (CSI) has been in a steady decline from 181.35 in 2005 to 144.76 in 2011. Regina saw a 39.98 per cent decrease in the CSI since 2005 and Saskatoon saw a 35.79 per cent decrease.
- The violent-crime severity index (VCSI) has gradually decreased in Saskatchewan by 17.4 per cent since 2005. The VCSI decreased by 33.95 per cent in Regina and 33.35 per cent in Saskatoon over the same time period.

JANE CAULFIELD/ METRO IN SASKATOON

According to a Statistics Canada report, Saskatchewan has high crime rates compared to other provinces, but local police say the numbers have been dramatically decreasing for a number of years. MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO IN SASKATOON

Housing help

Changes are in store for the province's social-housing programs PAGE 2

Name-drop

Hollywood has a long history of tinkering with movie titles, Richard Crouse says PAGE 6

1

NEWS

On the web

Bale rises to occasion

Actor Christian Bale visited moviegoers injured at the midnight screening of The Dark Knight Rises in Colorado. Go to metronews.ca to find out more.

Mobile news

They're quick, agile and our nation's best hope for gold at the upcoming London Games. Scan the code to view a gallery and profiles of the top-10 Canadian athletes to watch out for at the Olympics.

From left, Don Allen, president of the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation, Minister of Social Services June Draude, and Keith Hanson, board chair of the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation, outline changes to Saskatchewan's social-housing program on Tuesday morning in Saskatoon. MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO

Sask. social-housing program to change

Provincial measures. New policies will also prevent those who can afford private housing from taking advantage of program

MORGAN MODJESKI
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Saskatchewan's Ministry of Social Services hopes new changes to the province's social-housing program will encourage those who don't need assistance to seek homes in the private housing market, while giving those who need support easier access.

The five changes to the program include a modified rent scale, consideration of an applicant's social factors, removal of the $800 rent cap, changes to the minimum rental rate, and new eligibility criteria involving asset audits and maximum income.

According to Minister of Social Services June Draude, these changes will encourage those who can support themselves to seek private housing, as there is currently no policy that encourages the move.

"For too long the policies of the Saskatchewan housing programs have encouraged people to remain living in social housing long after their financial situations have changed enough or have improved enough for them to move into private apartments," said Draude.

"They continue to take up spaces that could be used by people who the program was actually designed to help."

She said these changes are meant to ensure the most vulnerable people in the province have access and prevent those who can afford housing from taking advantage of the system.

Program changes will be introduced to the province's largest urban centres this fall, while the changes will be rolled out in smaller communities across the rest of the province over the course of the next year.

For new tenants

Although changes will come into play in Saskatoon, Regina, Moose Jaw and Prince Albert by the fall, Draude explained they would only apply to new tenants.

- "I want to reassure existing tenants that they will not be forced out of their homes regardless of their income or assets," said Draude, adding those with the lowest incomes will be "protected" from the increase.

Roughriders

Player shakeup possible for Saturday's game against Ticats

The Roughriders were back on Taylor Field Tuesday as they continued their preparations for East Division dynamos the Hamilton Tiger-Cats.

The Riders are still regrouping after a tough Week 4 loss last Friday.

"It is not that some guys are not producing, we just need to make sure that we are getting the ultimate amount of production out of each position," said Riders head coach Corey Chamblin.

"It is going to be tough. We (the coaching staff) are not down on any players, saying like 'You have to do this.' We just know what we have to do to win in this league."

This means practice-squad players like defensive back Macho Harris and wide receiver Terrence Jeffers-Harris have a chance of cracking the roster on Saturday.

"The roster is not set at this moment," said Chamblin.

"This is a production-based business and we need to look at it week in and week out because we are graded on the end result."

JEFF MACKEY/METRO

Riders head coach Corey Chamblin addresses the media on Tuesday after the team's practice. JEFF MACKEY/METRO

News in pictures

1 **Mystery hunter.** Man in a goat suit says it was just a test

Utah officials have questioned a man wearing a goat suit among a herd of wild goats in the Wasatch Mountains. The man said he was testing the suit prior to a goat hunt. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2 **Life in prison.** William Balfour jailed in Hudson case

The man convicted of gunning down the mother, brother and seven-year-old nephew of actress Jennifer Hudson was sentenced to life in prison Tuesday.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

3 **The da Vinci smile.** Is body that of beguiling Mona Lisa?

Archeologists have found a skeleton buried inside an Italian monastery that could belong to Lisa Gherardini, the first model of Leonardo da Vinci's Mona Lisa.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

4 **Order of Canada.** Conrad Black wants to tell it like it is

Ex-media mogul Conrad Black says he wants an oral hearing as the Order of Canada advisory council decides whether to strip him of the award. THE CANADIAN PRESS

5 **Targeting a killer.** Over 150 groups seek ban on asbestos

More than 150 international and Canadian public-health organizations are demanding a worldwide ban on the mining and use of asbestos. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Spend, spend, spend. Besides London high living, Oda reimbursed taxpayers for other expenses: Docs

Bev Oda paid $16 for a glass of orange juice while in London in June 2011.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Former Conservative cabinet minister Bev Oda reimbursed taxpayers for inappropriate travel and hospitality expenses incurred on five separate occasions, it was revealed Tuesday.

The reinbursements followed revelations of her lavish spending while attending an international immunization conference in London last year.

"The former minister's expenses were re-examined and all inappropriate expenses were repaid," Stephanie Rea, now director of communications for the newly appointed International Co-operation Minister Julian Fantino, wrote in an email on Tuesday.

Oda came under fire this spring after The Canadian Press reported she had switched her reservation from the five-star Grange St. Paul's Hotel to the more expensive Savoy.

She also hired a chauffeur to drive her around in a luxury car and bought a glass of orange juice for $16 while in London in June 2011.

Documents obtained through access-to-information legislation showed that in addition to reimbursing taxpayers for the questionable charges in London, Oda had four other expense claims dating back to 2007 altered soon after the story appeared.

The changes included deleting the entry for a $208.32 dinner in London.

Oda is set to retire from politics next week.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Anger amid the final farewells: Sad father calls Holmes 'coward'

Colorado massacre. Orange hair, glassy eyes spark the question: Is the Dark Knight shooting rampage suspect sane?

Ashley Deuell kneels Tuesday at a memorial to a family friend, a massacre victim. TED S. WARREN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The families of those killed in the Colorado theatre massacre planned their final goodbyes Tuesday, their anger stirred by the sight of suspect James Holmes in a courtroom with dyed orange-red hair and glassy eyes.

Tom Teves, the father of one of the 12 people Holmes is accusing of killing in Friday's shooting rampage, called the suspect "a coward" for allegedly attacking defenceless victims.

Another 58 people were wounded in one of the worst mass shootings in recent U.S. history.

Robert Blache watched video clips from Holmes' seemingly dazed court appearance with his injured daughter Christina, who was shot in both legs at the midnight premiere of the new Batman film The Dark Knight Rises.

"He doesn't look surprised at any of it, but he seemed amazed at what was happening. I'm pretty sure he's not sane," Blache said.

After Holmes was led back to his solitary confinement cell, victims' families were left to plan funerals.

Holmes is being held on suspicion of first-degree murder, and he could face additional counts of aggravated assault and weapons violations. He won't be formally charged until next Monday.

Police expect months of working with behavioural analysts and scrutinizing Holmes' relationships to establish a motive. They say Holmes isn't co-operating.

Prosecutor Carol Chambers said her office is considering the death penalty.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A theatre empties

Three men accused of making threats during or after watching the new Batman movie have been arrested in separate incidents across the U.S. In Arizona, about 50 people fled a theatre. The other incidents were in Maine and Southern California.

African study

Vaginal ring an AIDS fighter?

U.S. researchers are studying thousands of women in Africa to see if inserting a vaginal ring coated with an anti-AIDS drug can protect them from HIV. The ring would be inserted just once a month.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Niagara Gorge drama

Suspect dead, officer injured

An injured Niagara Regional Police officer and the body of a man have been pulled from the Niagara Gorge. An Ontario police watchdog says the officer was chasing a man and they both went over the gorge wall.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

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LACKLUSTRE OLYMPIC SPIRIT

JUST SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca/justsaying

The Summer Olympics start in a couple of days, but you wouldn't know it here in Vancouver, the city that hosted the most recent Olympics. 2010, remember?

You think they'd fire up the flame one more time in solidarity, but it just sits there overlooking the North Shore mountains, the scene of so many gold-medal triumphs, like a spent Bic, not a flicker.

Even though the Vancouver weather has been reminiscent of the Olympic weather (cold and wet), hardly anyone is wearing the Olympic gear that not so long ago led them to endure day-long lineups in front of the Bay — just for the mittens.

John Furlong, the czar of the 2010 games and the chair of Canada's Own the Podium program, isn't even going to London to cheer on Canada's athletes.

They'll have to own the podium without him, as he says the money will be better spent elsewhere.

Maybe they'll only be able to afford to rent the podium. Time share?

City of no enthusiasm

"This apparent lack of Olympic rah-rah is puzzling when you consider the local frenzy whipped up during the 2010 Games."

This apparent lack of Olympic rah-rah is puzzling when you consider the local frenzy whipped up during the 2010 Games. The streets were jammed with millions of people who would stand in line for hours just to get a glimpse of the Olympic torch, zip-line across Robson Street or stand in front of the mint just to look at an Olympic gold medal. When Sid the Kid scored the goal that won the gold medal for Canada's hockey team, the entire city erupted in a roar that could be heard all the way to Wembley Stadium.

But now? Not a peep. It's eerie.

Maybe we're Olympicked out. Another one? Already? Or maybe we're just a Winter Olympics kind of town, though given the daily parade of Lycra-clad cyclists all-out pursuing their personal best, you'd be forgiven for thinking the opposite.

The only thing that hasn't changed between these Games and Vancouver's is the British press. The news is a blood sport in Britain. You'd think it's the Hunger Games, the way they gnash their collective chattering teeth about anticipated traffic woes, the stupid mascots, massive security problems, the controversy over a memorial for the Israeli athletes killed in Munich, the food, etc., confidently predicting the worst Olympics ever. Sounds familiar, doesn't it?

Of course, if we get to the podium often enough, it won't matter if we own it, rent it or pawn it.

And if Simon Whitfield wins the triathlon gold, you'll be able to hear the roar all the way to Vancouver.

But for now, it's quiet. Too quiet. Cue the national anthem ...

Well, it looks like somebody is into it. These basketball team members from Canada jump for joy at the Olympic rings inside the Olympic Village Tuesday in London. SUZANNE PLUNKETT/GETTY IMAGES

Eyeful tower an eyesore?

EMILIO MORENATTI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Looming over Olympics

Orbit Tower not understood

A security member takes photos at the Orbit observation tower inside Olympic Park in London.

Looming large over the Olympic Stadium, the contorted mass of steel spiralling 115 metres up into the London skies is dividing opinions before the Games have even begun.

The Orbit Tower was conceived as London's answer to the Eiffel Tower in Paris, having already beaten out the French capital to host the 2012 Olympics.

But to what purpose is this crushed, swirling roller-coaster design by sculptors Anish Kapoor and Cecil Balmond?

An observation deck? Maybe a mysterious monument to the Olympics, like the Sphinx to ancient Egypt? Or just a piece of modern art?

From afar, the 2,000-tonne structure resembles the heart of a theme park. But this is Olympic Park — and Britain's biggest-ever piece of public art is, to some, just a complex platform providing vistas of the capital.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Design commentary

"Half of the steel isn't doing a job for the height.... It looks a contorted mass of entrails being stretched and knotted into oblivion."

Oliver Wainwright of Building Design magazine

Pricey project

Olympic flame goes elsewhere

Steel baron Lakshmi Mittal, whose company donated the steel and is funding most of the $36.5-million US project, maintains there is no place for the ceremonial flame atop the tower.

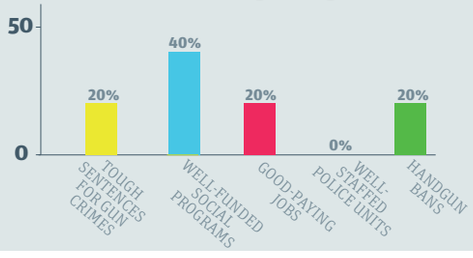
"It's strange if there are no ties to the Olympic cauldron, to make sure when the flame was lit for the entirety it could be seen all around from an open area," said Anna-Maria Sponaski, a native of Vancouver.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

What's the best defence against gun crime?



Twitter

@jfamacdonald: Severe thunderstorm warning? This will ruin my afternoon plans of running around the back yard waving a metal pole in the air. #yqr

@Lise_R: I sure hope another pedestrian wasn't hit at the Vic and Cornwall intersection. The city needs to do something about that #yqr #Regina

@raynesierra: #Regina and #Saskatoon have Canada's highest city crime rates. Wall's govt needs to crack down.

@tfreds77: Is it just me or are these tornado watches on every single day in Sasky?? #tornadoalley #YXE #YQR

@jaredmysko: Thunder is nearly continuous in city of Regina atm #yqr creepy feeling

metro
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Prime Minister Stephen Harper plugs in a GM Volt electric car at the GM plant in Oshawa, Ont., on Tuesday, alongside GM Canada president Kevin Williams, left, and Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty.
AARON VINCENT ELKAIM /THE CANADIAN PRESS

GM makes $850M investment in R&D at Ontario plant

Auto announcement. Workers question whether vehicles that are developed from investment will be produced in Canada

GM Canada is investing $850 million in research and development at its complex east of Toronto, an announcement hailed by the prime minister as proof of the automaker's commitment to Canada as it makes good on its bailout commitments, but regarded cautiously by auto workers.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper, who attended the GM announcement in Oshawa, Ont., said the money represents "exciting future implications" with ripple effects that will be felt throughout the economy.

The federal and Ontario governments invested a total of $10.5 billion in GM Canada in 2009 as the automaker struggled to survive the economic downturn.

The $850-million investment is aimed at meeting R&D spending commitments the automaker made under the bailout.

GM says the investment in R&D at the Canadian Engineering Centre will make the facility an integral part of its global engineering and R&D networks. But the company did not give any specific announcement about whether new jobs would be created.

The money will also go toward enhancing partnerships with automotive suppliers, including "new co-development projects and greater opportunities for start-ups to access funding through GM Ventures." THE CANADIAN PRESS

By the numbers

$1B

GM's $850-million investment came on the same day Toyota pledged $100 million to boost production in Cambridge, Ont., making for nearly $1 billion in auto-sector investment in Ontario in a single day.

U.K. Charges laid against ex-News Corp. editors in phone-hacking scandal

Britain's phone-hacking scandal entered a new and expanded criminal phase Tuesday, with charges brought against two former members of Prime Minister David Cameron's inner circle over a campaign of illegal espionage that has rocked the country's establishment.

The Crown Prosecution Service announced Tuesday that Andy Coulson and Rebekah Brooks — both former editors of Rupert Murdoch's now-shuttered News of the World tabloid — were among eight people being charged with conspiring to intercept the communications of at least 600 people from 2000 to 2006.

Rebekah Brooks, former chief executive of News International.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The alleged victims included everyone from a murdered teenager to Hollywood power couple Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie.

Coulson and Brooks, who had previously been charged in related cases, have both denied any wrongdoing and vowed to fight the charges. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Economic indicator

Retail sales up in May: StatsCan

Retail sales were up slightly in May to $38.9 billion. Statistics Canada says sales rose 0.3 per cent, with gains reported in six of 11 subsectors. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR 98¢ US (-0.35¢)

TSX 11,466.95 (-78.59)

OIL $88.50 US (+36¢)

GOLD $1,576.20 US (-$1.20)

Natural gas: $3.128 US (+1.1¢)
Dow Jones: 12,617.32 (-104.14)

2
SCENE

Scene in brief

Polley's conflicting stories

A new documentary directed by Oscar-nominated Canadian Sarah Polley will debut at the Venice Film Festival. Produced by the National Film Board, Stories We Tell finds the Toronto filmmaker investigating the secrets behind a family of storytellers. Polley uses playful interviews with the family to explore their candid yet contradictory answers to the same questions. Thirty-three-year-old Polley's last film, Take This Waltz, starred Michelle Williams and Seth Rogen and premiered at last year's Toronto International Film Festival. She was nominated for an Oscar for writing her 2006 drama Away From Her. The Venice fest runs Aug. 29 to Sept. 8 and will open with Indian director's Mira Nair's The Reluctant Fundamentalist.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

On the web

Some choose back-row seats, others check for police, but fans still throng to see Dark Knight Rises

Being released this weekend, The Watch was once called Neighbourhood Watch but had a name change after recent tragic events. HANDOUT

Keep Watch on the name game

Movie titles. Richard Crouse looks at the long history of studios and TV stations forced to change the names of films and shows

IN FOCUS
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This weekend a movie called The Watch is opening in theatres. The Ben Stiller comedy was originally called Neighborhood Watch but the February, 2012 shooting of Trayvon Martin by a neighborhood watch coordinator in Florida led to the change.

In a statement, 20th Century Fox said, "As the subject matter of this alien invasion comedy bears no relation whatsoever to the recent tragic events in Florida, the studio altered the title to avoid any accidental or unintended misimpression that it might."

The sad incident that prompted the name change was unusual, but title tweaking is commonplace in Hollywood.

Sometimes moniker modification happens for practical reasons.

In the early stages of development, American Pie was known as Teenage Sex Comedy That Can Be Made For Under $10 Million That Your Reader Will Love But The Executive Will Hate. That unwieldy name got the attention of Universal Studios who changed it to East Great Falls High and then Comfort Food before settling on American Pie.

The Tribal Rites of the New Saturday Night was also considered too long a name and changed to Saturday Night Fever, lifted from the Bee Gees song Night Fever.

A Roy Orbison song triggered the title of one of Julia Roberts's most famous movies.

Pretty Women went into production under the name 3,000, the amount Julia's working girl was paid for the night, but research showed audiences thought it sounded like the title of a sci-fi flick. Director Garry Marshal settled on the Oribson classic after listening to dozens of hit songs for inspiration.

Occasionally titles are changed to avoid confusion with other projects. Goodfellas was called Wiseguy but changed so as not be mistaken for the Ken Wahl television series. The Real World was the working title for Reality Bites, but was altered when MTV began airing a reality show of the same name.

One of the most famous James Bond titles was improved by a typo.

The story of a villain who creates the next day's headlines and then causes them to come true was called Tomorrow Never Lies, but when a marketing executive mistakenly typed Tomorrow Never Dies in a memo the mistake was deemed more catchy and commercial.

Finally, would you see a movie called Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep? Marketers didn't think so and called it Blade Runner instead.

How about The Last First Kiss? That one became the Will Smith movie Hitch.

Art imitating life or life imitating art?

Matt Damon says there's a sense of fury in the U.S. over banking scandals and financial inequality that neither Democrats nor Republicans are addressing in their presidential campaigns.

The 41-year-old actor made his comments at Comic-Con in San Diego, where he was promoting the sci-fi thriller Elysium, about a future in which the ultra-rich escape a dying Earth to live in a poverty-free, illness-free orbiting habitat. Damon said he expects President Obama to be elected to a second term in November but isn't as staunch a supporter as he once was.

"I'd be shocked if (Mitt) Romney won. You know, I think Obama is the clear choice. But I've said before I'm really disappointed in him, and I am, particularly because of the banking stuff. He so misread that," Damon said.

"That sense of unfair — the sense that we don't have a country anymore when people don't feel like they have a chance, like it's going to be fair. ... If people feel like the deck is stacked against them, then they stop playing by the rules. Because why play by the rules? The game is fixed, right?"

Damon said both parties haven't paid enough attention the Occupy movement.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Matt Damon got political at a recent press gathering.
GETTY IMAGES

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Madonna. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Madonna being criticized in wake of Colorado shooting

Madonna is coming under fire for using fake guns in her stage show just days after the Aurora, Colo., movie theater massacre, according to the Daily Mail.

The singer was reportedly warned by police before her first performance in Scotland not to use the props, but did so anyway.

The fake guns used in the show include replicas of an AK47 assault rifle and a few handguns.

"Madonna and her dancers using replica guns was always in bad taste, but given what happened in Colorado it is even worse. She should know better," a spokesperson for Mothers Against Guns tells the newspaper.

But a source close to Madonna insists the singer is just sticking to her principles.

"Madonna would rather cancel her show than censor her art," the source tells the Huffington Post.

Mariah Carey

Mariah Carey raking it in on American Idol

Not only is Mariah Carey confirmed as a new judge on American Idol this fall, but she'll also reportedly be the highest paid, according to Us Weekly.

"Mariah is getting paid $18 million with a one-year option to do Idol, making her the highest paid judge on any music competition show," a source says.

Jennifer Lopez, who recently left the show, earned about $12 million per season, while the Voice judge Christina Aguilera will reportedly get $10 million for the next season.

Britney Spears previously held the record, getting a reported $16 million for her current gig on the X Factor.

The Word

Katy Perry makes lewd gestures, also sky still blue

THE WORD
Monica Weymouth
scene@metronews.ca

Although Madonna is practically begging for someone to complain about her racy MDNA tour, it's Katy Perry who has found herself in legal trouble stemming from an April performance in India.

It seems the singer invited cricket player Doug Bollinger on stage to demonstrate how to hold a cricket bat, and the lesson — which involved Bollinger snuggling up behind Perry and grabbing her below-the-waist microphone — offended a lawyer in the audience enough to file a complaint.

In the case, which will be heard July 31, the lawyer claims that the gesture was "obscene and lascivious" and "distracted students who were writing exams at the time," according to The Sun.

Listen, guys — you're overreacting here. Katy Perry has drenched us with icing from her spinning cupcake bra, and our country's education system is totally fine.

Absolutely nothing to worry about, we promise.

Katherine Jackson

Michael Jackson estate tearing his family apart

While Katherine Jackson may no longer be considered a missing person, her grandchildren still reportedly haven't been able to reach the 82-year-old, according to Us Weekly.

Katherine's son Jermaine insists that she's resting in Arizona on doctor's orders, while other family members are crying foul. Michael Jackson's 14-year-old daughter, Paris, in particular, "is a wreck and wants her grandma back immediately," a source says, adding that Paris and her brothers haven't spoken with the grandmother and legal guardian in more than a week.

"It is a war between family members. Paris is broken-hearted about what is happening and has begged the family to call a truce to allow her grandma back."

The executors of Michael Jackson's estate say they are concerned about the welfare of the singer's mother and his three children amid a family feud.

In a letter posted on fan sites Tuesday, executors John Branca and John McClain say they are doing what they can to protect those family members from "undue influences, bullying, greed, and other unfortunate circumstances."

Twitter

@mindykaling
hee hee i like when you're looking at the list of who a guy follows on twitter and it's just famous comedians and girls he's hooked up with

@adamlambert
I'm not Sick. Lol rumors

@simonpegg
I'm not leaving Twitter. I'm at a crazy circus where the animals are dressed provocatively and I'm worried I might say something off colour.

@wossy
We are in Florida and loving it. But the discovery of chocolate covered crisps (delicious) does not bode well...

3 LIFE

Travel in brief

Sleep in a London cab during the Olympics

A London taxi driver has come up with a novel way of solving the Olympic hotel dilemma: Visitors can sleep in his cab for $78. Cabbie David Weekes had feared that busy traffic throughout the Olympics and special road lanes only for Olympic VIPs would mean fewer taxi fares. So he's converted his traditional black London taxi into a cozy single bed with a Union Jack blanket. Weekes said some London taxi drivers think working during the Olympics will be "a total waste of time" because of the congestion. But others like himself will be driving during the games, which run from July 27 to Aug. 12. Outside parliament earlier this week, hundreds of London taxi drivers protested their exclusion from the special Olympic lanes.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web

New Vancouver urban winery brings wine-on-tap concept to B.C. consumers

The currents in the river make it impossible to swim at Montreal's Clock Tower Beach. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hit the beach — but forget the swimming

Montreal. Sandy haven in city's Old Port is a great place for catching rays; just don't plan to take a dip

It sounded funny at first — a beach at Montreal's Old Port where there's no swimming.

But the scene is actually quite striking. Visitors can bury their feet in soft white sand as they gaze out at city landmarks and a parade of boats going up and down the St. Lawrence River.

Within view are the towering old Molson brewery, the steel trusses of Jacques-Cartier Bridge, and La Ronde, the city's offshore amusement park.

The river's strong current ruled out the possibility of making the beach open to swimming, and the closest sunbathers can get to water are the mist showers. So far, though, the new Clock Tower Beach has been a hit.

"I never thought it would be nice like this," said 65-year-old Pauline Angers, who lives just outside Montreal, as she sipped a juice under a parasol.

"It's lovely. There are so many places with pools, but you don't see this everywhere."

Located on a quay at the city's Old Port, the beach is named after the giant clock tower that stands at the water's edge, alongside a marina filled with motorboats and yachts.

It opened in mid-June, joining dozens of other nearby attractions at what has long been the city's tourist headquarters.

Visitors can amble along the boardwalk or turn into Old Montreal, where outdoor patio restaurants and artists showcasing their works line the cobblestone streets.

There are so many things to do and see — boat cruises, calèche rides, a kid-friendly science centre, a Cirque du soleil performance — that the beach may get passed over by many visitors.

That's not the case for nearby resident Jessica Diano, who decided to get a season's pass.

"I love it," said Diano, 30, as she sunbathed with three friends. "At first it was weird to not have the option to swim, but I don't mind."

In the evening, there's a refreshment stand at the beach offering food and drinks, providing a prime spot to watch fireworks during the summer months. The space may be a little less welcoming to children.

On a recent weekend afternoon, there were a few dozen people at the beach, but only a handful of kids. Without a pool, there's little for them to do but play with sand toys and cool off in the mist showers.

"I think if someone makes a trip specifically for this, I'm not sure if it's worth it," said Marco Quirion, who had biked to the beach from a Montreal suburb with his partner and two kids.

Angers disagrees.

She has already made several trips to the beach since it opened and plans to return. She said it's a great place to find a quiet haven just steps from the buzz of the city.

"Normally, you have to travel to find sand like this," she said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"At first it was weird to not have the option to swim, but I don't mind."

Clock Tower Beach visitor Jessica Diano

If you go...

- **The Clock Tower Beach.** Is located at Montreal's Old Port at the Quai de l'Horloge, which begins at the end of Bonsecours Street, near de la Commune Street.
- **Hours.** Open every day until Sept. 2, between 10.30 a.m. and 7.30 p.m. On fireworks night and special events, it closes at 11 p.m.
- **Daily admission.** Five years old and younger are free; 6 to 12 years old, $3; 13 to 59 years old $6; 60 years and older $5. Family rates are also available.
- **For more information.** Visit oldportofmontreal.com/clock-tower-beach.html.

Redpath Sugar Museum: The sweetest place in Toronto

Richard Feltoe is the curator at the Redpath Sugar Museum.
TORY ZIMMERMAN/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

City landmark. Learn a little about Canada's oldest sugar refining company — and watch the boats come in from the Caribbean

Anyone with a sweet tooth will be fascinated to learn about Canada's oldest sugar refining company during a free visit to the Redpath Sugar Museum.

The museum, housed within the hulking refinery on the Toronto waterfront, is chockfull of exhibits on the refining of sugar and the making of sugar products. Sugar has been around for centuries. It was imported in Canada's early days, but John Redpath's creation of the refinery made it widely available and gave him a monopoly.

Curator Richard Feltoe, who's been welcoming school groups and independent visitors alike for decades, tailors his tours to everyone's interests with facts and figures galore on manufacturing, production and nutrition. Redpath Sugar was started by John Redpath, a stonemason who immigrated from Scotland to Montreal and became one of the largest building contractors in Canada.

Before he got going with the sugar business at age 57 in 1854, he was involved in the building of Montreal's General Hospital, Notre-Dame Basilica and parts of McGill University.

But it was the work he did on a transportation network that included the Lachine and Rideau canals that opened up the interior of Canada. The Redpath Sugar factory was located on the banks of the Lachine. But by 1900, the canal was too narrow to accommodate ocean-going vessels.

"They began looking for an alternate facility and picked the Toronto waterfront which was being infilled at that time. The plant was constructed between 1957 to 1959 to coincide with the opening of St. Lawrence Seaway, which allowed large ocean-going vessels to reach Toronto. And that's why we are here today," Feltoe explains.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sugar Beach

Sugar Beach. A public park east of the factory is on land that used to be leased from the city by Redpath. The beach is an excellent vantage point to watch huge vessels carrying raw sugar from the Caribbean get unloaded.

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Agave-BBQ Roasted Chicken: All the sweet taste, none of the hangover

Agave nectar — the current darling of the alternative sweetener world — is made from the same plant that is used to produce tequila. And it goes down so much easier (squeeze of lime and dash of salt are optional).

But let's start with some basics. Agave nectar is an amber liquid that resembles honey, but has a cleaner, sweeter, even fruitier flavour. Not long ago it was mostly unheard of in North America, existing primarily in the backwaters of the natural foods world.

In recent years, it has evolved into a booming $200 million industry. Suddenly, it's being used in everything from ketchup and barbecue sauce to baked goods and ice cream.

Here it's used to make a delicious roasted chicken.

Agave-Barbecue Roasted Chicken

This recipe serves six. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients

- 3- to 5-lb whole chicken
- Kosher salt and black pepper

Barbecue sauce

- 6-oz can tomato paste
- 5 tbsp agave syrup
- 3 tbsp olive oil
- 5 tbsp cider vinegar
- 1 1/2 tbsp Dijon mustard
- 1 tsp kosher salt
- 2 tsp ground cumin
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1 tsp garlic powder
- 1 tsp Worcestershire sauce
- 1/2 tsp black pepper

1. Heat the oven to 400 F.

2. Place chicken on cutting board with breast down. Use kitchen shears to cut from neck hole down the length of the backbone and out the rump. Repeat on the other side of the backbone. Discard the backbone. The cutting will require a little effort, but the shears should cut through the bones without too much difficulty. Spread open the chicken, exposing the cavity.

3. Sprinkle inside with salt and pepper. Overturn the chicken and place it cavity side down in a roasting pan just a bit larger than the chicken. Gently press the chicken to flatten. Season over and under the skin with salt and pepper. Cover tightly with foil and roast for 30 minutes.

4. Meanwhile, prepare the barbecue sauce. In a medium bowl, whisk together all ingredients. Set aside.

5. After the chicken has roasted for 30 minutes, remove the pan from the oven and remove the foil. Use a pastry brush to brush the barbecue sauce thickly over the entire chicken. Return the chicken to the oven and roast for another 30 minutes, or until the meat at the thickest part reaches 165 F.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Drink of the Week

Orange-Lemon-Lime Tea-Ade

- 8 bags black tea
- 4 bags mint tea
- 6 cups boiling water
- 3/4 cup sugar
- Ice
- Juice of 4 oranges
- Juice of 2 lemons and 2 limes

In a 1-gallon pitcher, combine the black tea bags, mint tea bags and boiling water. Let steep for 5 minutes. Use a slotted spoon to remove the tea bags, squeezing them over the pitcher to extract as much liquid as possible. Add the sugar, stirring until it is dissolved. Stir in the orange, lemon and lime juices, then add enough ice to fill the pitcher.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Stretch the narrow net

Eyes on the prize(s). Opening up to other options can yield awesome results

ISHANI NATH
TalentEgg.ca

So you've beefed up your resumé, networked with everyone from your next door neighbour to your college professors, and applied all over town, but somehow, it's July and the most work you've gotten has been the few dollars your parents threw to you for clearing out the shed.

If you're still on the hunt for summer work and employers aren't biting, it may be time to caste a wider net.

Why you should widen your summer job search

Widening your summer job search takes a shift in perspective. Give some thought to why you need a summer job so badly. Is it for the money? Is it for the experience? Is it for your resume? Your answers to these questions will help determine how broad your search should be and what jobs you could be applying to.

The positions you get may not be your dream job but with the right attitude, they may be just what your summer needs.

Transferable skills

Though these summer jobs may not be what you want to do long term, the skills can "transfer" to future positions in your desired field.

As a liberal arts student who liked writing, I wasn't really looking to make my way in the healthcare system or retail industry, but what I learned from working in those industries was invaluable.

Every job, no matter what it is, will give you transferable skills.

ISHANI NATH IS AN ASPIRING WRITER WHO IS LEARNING THE COMPLEXITIES OF THE CRAFT IN RYERSON UNIVERSITY'S MASTER'S OF JOURNALISM PROGRAM. TALENTEGG.CA IS CANADA'S LEADING JOB SITE AND ONLINE CAREER RESOURCE FOR COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADUATES.

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Shahiryar Asif
Graduate
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As I was about to graduate I had not found a full-time job that was relevant to my education or my future goals. The process of finding a relevant job took me six months.

Luckily, I had been working at Rogers Communications part-time throughout school and continued working there while searching for a full-time job. I understood that the market was competitive and decided to differentiate myself by pursuing my Certified Associate of Project Management (CAPM) designation through the Project Management Institute, which I successfully obtained.

Aside from this, I spent many hours reviewing job listings, applying for jobs and learning about career search strategies.

Where I am now

I currently work at Ingram Micro as a Licensing Coordinator. My short-term goal is to pursue a MBA at a reputable business school in September 2013.

My recommendations for employers, schools and career centres

My recommendation to schools and career centres is to invest time and resources in the professional development of students at least in the fourth year. Many students graduate with exceptional grades and are left hanging in regards to job search and networking strategies. Schools also need to develop solid partnerships with employers in the community so students get exposure to these organizations.

The biggest challenge I faced was that employers required corporate experience for entry-level jobs. Employers need to understand that, although for obvious reasons some recent graduates may not have corporate experience, graduates can definitely contribute through their education, their part-time work experience and through their extra-curricular experience. Like many students, I invested a lot of time into extra-curricular activities while in school. Employers should appreciate this and understand that students can apply the skills they obtained through their experience to the job.

My recommendations for students

Get involved in extra-curricular activities or volunteer as early as you can. This will allow you to develop new skills and will differentiate you from your peers.

Furthermore, network as much as you can. Attend networking sessions, information sessions and any relevant career centre events. Develop solid relationships with your professors. They have a lot of experience and tips that they would love to share with you.

Lastly, do not lose hope. Always keep your goals in mind and do whatever it takes to achieve them.

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NHL labour talks

NHLPA is close to making its CBA counter-proposal

The NHL Players' Association is almost ready to table its own vision for a new collective bargaining agreement.

As negotiations with the NHL resumed Tuesday, NHLPA executive director Donald Fehr indicated that the union was getting close to responding to the league's initial proposal, which included a decreased share of hockey-related revenue, term limits on contracts and a 22 per cent salary rollback.

"I doubt that it will be weeks plural," said Fehr. "But could it be two? Yeah. It could be two, it could be less."

The sides have entered gently into talks. This week's three-day session in Toronto marks the fifth consecutive week Fehr and NHL commissioner Gary Bettman have sat across the table from one another, but they still seem to be feeling their way into the process.

The NHL delivered its initial CBA proposal to the union during a bargaining session on July 13. In response, the NHLPA requested a "fair amount of additional information," according to Fehr.

"They've indicated that they're in the process of compiling it and will get it to us," Fehr said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHLPA executive director Donald Fehr THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Memorial Cup, minus two figurines, is displayed during an event with the Shawinigan Cataractes as president Real Breton speaks on May 31 at the legislature in Quebec City. JACQUES BOISSINOT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cataractes D-man sorry for damaging trophy

CHL. Shawinigan's Donnelly will have to pay for repairs to Memorial Cup, team general manager says

Shawinigan Cataractes defenceman Dillon Donnelly has apologized for damaging the Memorial Cup and said it was an accident.

But the son of former NHL rearguard Gord Donnelly will be billed for the repairs by the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League team.

The 19-year-old Colorado Avalanche prospect sent a message on Twitter on Tuesday that said: "Breaking the Memorial Cup was an accident. I picked it up, lost my balance and dropped it. There was no intention to break. I'm sorry."

The junior hockey championship trophy looked like a wreck in pictures published this week. The metal cup at the top was bashed in and the wooden base was cracked. Each player on the championship team is allowed 24 hours to celebrate with the cup at home, provided the team takes out $50,000 in insurance against damages.

Cataractes general manager Martin Mondou said Donnelly will have to pay.

"You have to be responsible for your behaviour," he said.

Mondou had not yet spoken to Donnelly about the damages, but said the issue "will be resolved between us, the league and the kid. Nobody else."

Two figurines of hockey players on either side of the cup were missing, but they fell off long before Donnelly had the trophy on July 13 in Montreal.

Mondou said the figurines came off twice when the team was presented the cup following their victory on home ice in the final against the London Knights in May.

The Canadian Hockey League, the umbrella group for the three Canadian-based major junior leagues, has asked that the cup be returned immediately to Toronto.

Some Cataractes players who had not yet had their day with the cup will miss their turn, said Photi Sotiropoulos, spokesman for the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League.

He said the team is held responsible for the cup, not any individual players.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Replica

- The original 1919 Memorial Cup is kept permanently at the Hockey Hall of Fame in Toronto.
- The damaged one is a replica, but can cost thousands of dollars to repair when badly damaged.

Nashville Predators hang on to Shea Weber

The Nashville Predators have matched the staggering offering sheet made by the Philadelphia Flyers for defenceman Shea Weber.

The Predators made sure on Tuesday they will keep their star defenceman when they decided to pay him $110 million US over 14 years. Weber, 26, is the Predators captain and played on a $7.5-million arbitrator's award last season. He had 19 goals and 49 points along the way.

Nashville already lost free-agent defenceman Ryan Suter to Minnesota this summer, and losing Weber would have been an unexpected blow to a defence-first team that had 104 points last season.

The Flyers were looking for someone to fill the void left by Philadelphia defenceman Chris Pronger's absence.

Weber hoped he would land in Philadelphia. Now, he will likely end his career in Nashville.

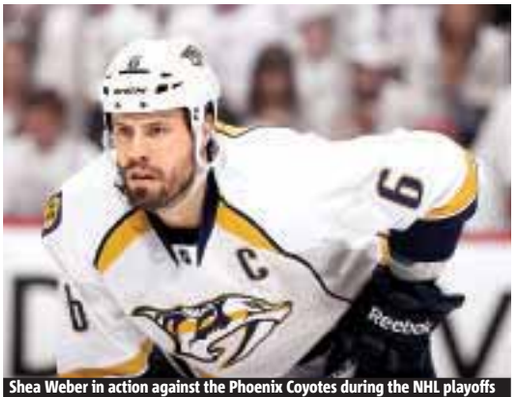
"In tendering an offer sheet to Shea Weber, we were trying to add a top defenceman entering the prime of his career," Flyers general manager Paul Holmgren said. "With Nashville matching our offer, we wish Shea and the Predators all the best."

On behalf of Predators chairman Tom Cigarran, GM David Poile and CEO Jeff Cogen, the team released a statement that called the Weber signing "the most important hockey transaction in franchise history."

Weber is a three-time all-star who helped Canada win gold in the 2010 Olympics, and is also is the mainstay of the Predators' defensive-minded approach. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Commitment

The Predators said they wanted to send a message to their fans that they remain committed to fielding a Stanley Cup contender.



Shea Weber in action against the Phoenix Coyotes during the NHL playoffs in April in Glendale, Ariz. CHRISTIAN PETERSEN/GETTY IMAGES

4 SPORTS

NFL

"I think I'm looking forward to it more than any season in my life."

New York Jets coach Rex Ryan has slimmed down and toned down his comments, but he is still plenty confident and eager to get this season going. Having Tim Tebow in green and white isn't the only reason. His biggest task will be erasing the bitterness of finishing 8-8 and missing the playoffs for the first time in his three years as coach.

"Maybe there's some doubt about my coaching ability or whatever.... I can't wait to show people. That mentality has carried me my whole life."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mobile sports

Ichiro Suzuki's skills might be on the downswing, but his star still shines bright back home. After 12 1/2 years in Seattle, "the top Japanese athlete in the world" was traded to the Yankees on Monday and now, with a realistic chance to win a World Series, has created tremendous buzz in his motherland. Scan the code for the story.

History meets rock 'n' roll at venue

Canada's Olympic men's beach volleyball team practises Tuesday at a venue situated behind the Horse Guard Parade building in London. RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Beach volleyball. Canadian players are savouring the opportunity to play at a site in the shadows of historic buildings

AC/DC, Led Zeppelin and the Beach Boys blared Tuesday as Canadians hit the sand to train in what will likely become one of the London Olympics' most iconic venues.

The beach volleyball venue is set in the shadow of the Horse Guard Parade, a site that dates back to 1745 and takes its name from the soldiers who have provided protection for the monarch since 1660.

It is perhaps best known for the annual Trooping the Colour event that takes place on the Queen's birthday.

But for 13 days starting Saturday, it will be a rock 'n' roll sandbox filled with athletic beefcake and hard-bodied women in itsy-bitsy bikinis.

It's a sport that is the antithesis of golf — fans are encouraged to rock out. The beach party takes place in an intimate, temporary stadium that seats 15,000 and wraps around a court stocked with some 5,000 tonnes of sand brought from a quarry in Godstone, Surrey.

"It's amazing," said Marie-Andree Lessard, sporting a huge grin. "It's so vibrant. The sand's beautiful. The colour's awesome. The site is of utmost beauty and of great historic value as well. So I think we're very grateful and happy to be playing here."

Martin Reader added: "Beautiful venue. Amazing place in London."

The venue is sure to become one of the television images of the Games, especially from high in the stand that faces the Horse Guard Parade building.

But the entire site is packed with history. Surrounding buildings include the Old Admiralty Building, Household Cavalry Museum, Scotland Office and St. James's Park and the Guards Memorial.

The Duke of Wellington was based in Horse Guards when he was in charge of the British army.

Both the Canadian men and women open on the weekend against host Britain.

The Canadian men had to win in Mexico to get Canada an Olympic spot.

"There were a few thousand Mexican fans yelling not the nicest things at us," said Reader's partner, Josh Binstock. "But we relish that. I love playing the spoiler, I love being the bad guy. Of course, I love being supported and loved but either way it's fun having that pressure on us."

After Mexico, the duo had to defeat a rival pair to book their ticket to London.

Given that happened July 14 for both pairs, it made for a whirlwind week before the men headed to Austria to refocus on the Games.

"Literally the moment after we won, we were just getting pulled (from all sides)," said Binstock. "And that lasted for the whole week. I don't remember just sitting down and enjoying a meal the whole week."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"It really doesn't matter where we play. We just have to play the best possible."

Canadian beach volleyball player Martin Reader, who doesn't believe the surroundings and conditions will affect his play

Canada can expect to catch 22 in London

The Canadian Olympic Committee and Own the Podium set a goal of a top-12 finish for Canada at the London Olympics.

Using the 2008 Beijing Games as a gauge, that's 24 medals.

Canada's previous high was 22 in 1996. Canada tied for 14th in Beijing with 18 medals and was 19th at the 2004 Games in Athens with 12.

Here are some predictions of where Canada's medals will come from:

BOXING, 1 medal: Mary Spencer may have needed an assist from the IOC to get to London after losing her first bout at the world championships in May, but the three-time world champ can't be overlooked.

CANOE/KAYAK, 1 medal: Kayaker Adam van Koeverden has worked too hard on his 1,000 metres not to win a fourth career Olympic medal.

CYCLING, 2 medals: Two is conservative. Canada is a contender on the road, track and trail. Mountain biker Catharine Pendrel is a favourite for gold.

DIVING, 2 medals: Jennifer Abel is a potential double medallist in women's individual springboard and synchro springboard with Emilie Heymans. Alex Despatie brings the experience of winning two Olympic medals, but he's coming off a head injury.

EQUESTRIAN, 1 medal: Canada has depth in dressage, eventing and show jumping. The best bet for a medal is in team show jumping.

GYMNASTICS, 2 medals: Between them, Rosannagh MacLennan and three-time medallist Karen Cockburn should produce a medal in women's trampoline. If both can, bonus.

ROWING, 4 medals: Canadian rowers have a tradition of making the podium and they are expected to continue that trend in London.

SWIMMING, 3 medals: Distance freestyler Ryan Cochrane is chasing two medals. Julia Wilkinson, Martha McCabe, Brent Hayden and open-water swimmer Richard Weinberger are podium possibilities.

SYNCHRONIZED SWIMMING, 1 medal: The team of Elise Marcotte and Marie-Pier Boudreau-Gagnon were fourth in the world last year.

TAEKWONDO, 1 medal: A silver medallist in Beijing, Karine Sergerie remains ranked No. 2 in the world in the 67-kilogram class.

TRACK-AND-FIELD, 1 medal: Anything less than a medal from shot putter Dylan Armstrong is underachieving. Jessica Zelinka has an outside shot in heptathlon.

TRIATHLON, 1 medal: The question is who can produce it? Paula Findlay was the woman to beat until she was injured a year ago. What she'll do in London is a mystery. Otherwise, it's up to veteran Simon Whitfield or Kyle Jones, who has begun to establish himself in the world's elite.

WRESTLING, 2 medals: Olympic champ Carol Huynh attempts to defend her 48-kilogram title, while Ms. Reliable Tonya Verbeek looks for a third Olympic medal. Martine Dugrenier and Leah Callahan are contenders, too.

TOTAL: 22 medals.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Melo fantastic in friendly versus Spain

U.S. forward Carmelo Anthony, centre, duels for the ball with Serge Ibaka and Pau Gasol on Tuesday during an Olympic exhibition game in Barcelona, Spain. Anthony came off the bench to score 23 of his 27 points in the first half, and the Americans beat Spain 100-78 on in a rematch of the 2008 gold-medal game — and possible preview of the next one. DAVID RAMOS/GETTY IMAGES

Canuck women in tough early

Soccer. On eve of Olympic opener, Canadian team discusses matchup with world champion Japan

John Herdman hasn't had to bolster his players with any special messages of motivation, or implement any team-building strategies since they touched down in England.

Ten months after he took on the task of mending the battered psyche of Canada's women's soccer team, and a day before his squad opens its London Olympic campaign, the coach said his players are all-business, and more than ready.

"That's the brilliance of this group, there's a maturity there," Herdman said following his team's final practice in Coventry before its opener. "They're managing internally everything they need to, to be ready for the Games. So my message has been really simple: Keep doing what you're doing."

Quoted

"They're a pleasure to watch and have taken the women's game to another level in terms of technical ability."

Canada women's soccer coach John Herdman on Japan

The Canadians open versus World Cup champion Japan in Coventry on Wednesday, two days before the opening ceremonies. Canada is seeking redemption after a horrible showing at the World Cup last summer in Germany — a last-place finish that led to the departure of coach Carolina Morace and the hiring of Herdman.

The Canadians face what could be their toughest test of the tournament, playing a Japanese squad that knocked off the perennial power United States in a penalty shootout to win the World Cup in Germany.

Canadian midfielder Sophie Schmidt calls Japan a "Barcelona-type team."

"Japan is a special team, just in the way they pass the ball," Schmidt said. "We've had discussions. We know we won't have the ball for most of the game, so we just have to take advantage when we do, make most of our chances when we do get them."

The seventh-ranked Canadians and No. 3 Japan have played each other to three wins, three losses and three draws. But Japan has been on the rise since its fourth-place finish in Beijing. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Swimming. Weinberger at ease in the open water

Richard Weinberger likes to keep open-water swimming friendly amid the thrashing of arms and legs.

The 22-year-old Canadian will blurt out a greeting to a competitor churning the water beside him, or a "Duuuude" if it's one of his friends in the sport.

"Richard is unusual," his coach Ron Jacks says. "He's different in a lot of ways."

But when you aspire to be an Olympic gold medallist "you're not normal," Jacks says. "There's only one of them and one can't be the norm."

In a sport dominated by swimmers older than him, Weinberger is the brash upstart who beat the world-class field in the Olympic test event in London last summer.

"I beat the world champion and second-place finisher at worlds by 30 seconds, almost," Weinberger says. "That was definitely a huge win and an unexpected win.

"Pretty much at that moment, it became real to me that I could possibly win gold at the Olympics."

Weinberger took gold at the Pan American Games last October. A top-10 result in June at a World Cup in Portugal was required to qualify for London.

Weinberger finished second despite an early scramble to keep his goggles on.

"I would have to say he's the fastest improving open-water swimmer in the world," Jacks says.

Toronto's Zsofia Balazs will compete in the women's open-water swim Aug. 9, followed by Victoria's Weinberger the following day.

Also known as marathon swimming, open-water races are held in oceans, lakes, rivers and ponds. The 2012 Olympic race is six laps in the cool, calm water of the Serpentine in Hyde Park.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Travelling man

Richard Weinberger was born in Moose Jaw, Sask.

- He moved often with parents Tony and Marina and sister Brittany to Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, Saudi Arabia and British Columbia during his life.

Richard Weinberger trains at the University of British Columbia Aquatic Centre last month in Vancouver. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

5 DRIVE

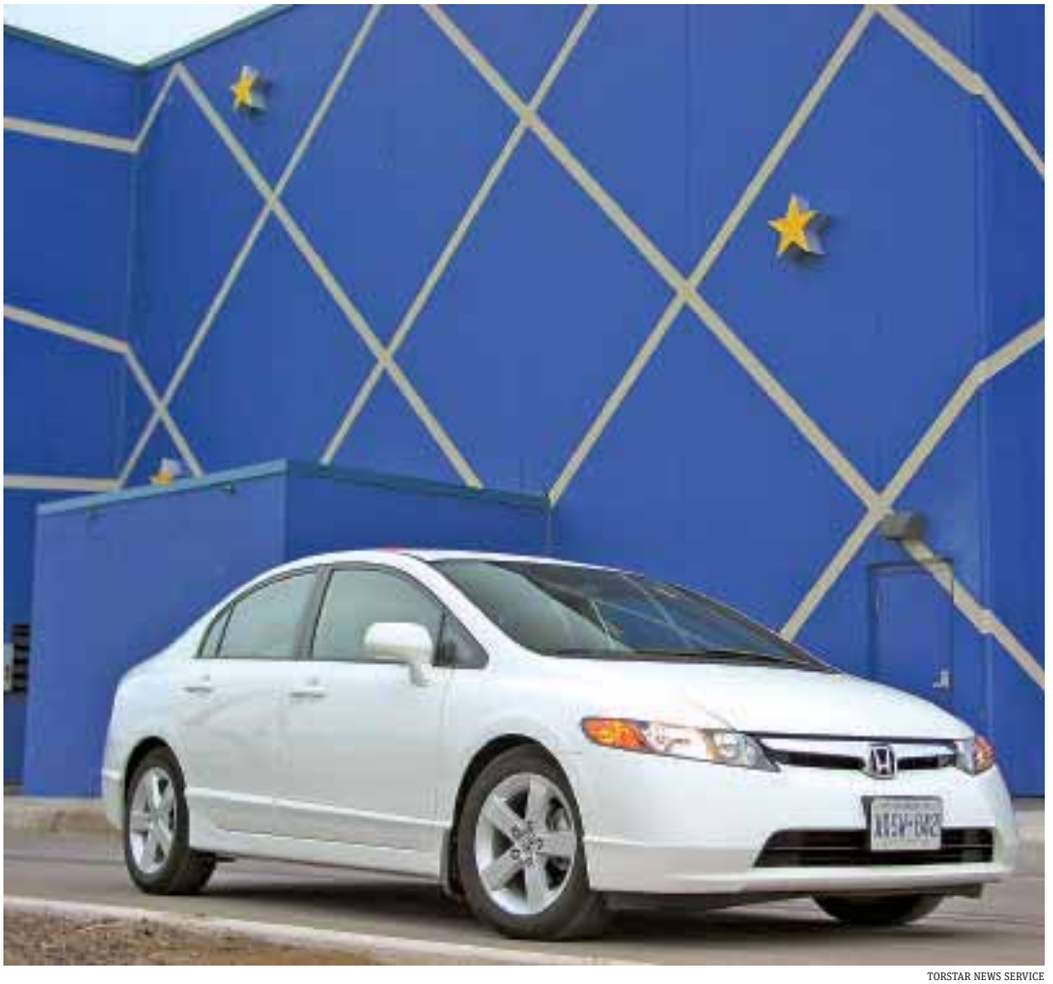
A good reputation for a good reason

Second Gear.
2006 to 2011
Honda Civic

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
drive@metronews.ca

For 2012, the Honda Civic entered its latest generation — leaving the previous 2006 to 2011 model range in used-car territory.

The last-gen Civic was a best-seller available to Canadian shoppers in two or four-door body styles and with a range of powertrain options to suit a variety of needs. All models brought Honda's promise of reliable performance and high resale values to the compact car segment. Compact cars don't get much more sensible than this.



TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

What Owners Like

Build quality, gas mileage, reliability, generous storage facilities and an all-around easy-to-drive character were all rated highly. Handling and ride quality are commented upon positively. Comfortable seats and the clever digital speedometer are also typically loved.

What Owners Dislike

Some wish for more power, a richer, more upscale interior, a quieter ride, and a repositioned handbrake lever — which can dig into the knees of long-legged drivers.

Common Issues

The Civic has a fantastic reputation for reliability, but a few precautionary checks should be considered mandatory.

A handful of owners have reported premature head-gasket failure under warranty. This problem could be pricey if not covered by warranty — so check your potential used Civic for signs of head-gasket problems to be sure. Ask a mechanic for help if you're unsure how.

Earlier models in this generation may suffer from a potential engine block crack as well. Like the head-gasket issue, this seems rare — but a quick check for coolant or oil leaks should be made, just to be safe. Owners have also complained of premature tire and brake wear — check these components as well.

Engine

Standard Civic models were powered by a 1.8-litre, 140-horsepower VTEC engine paired to a five-speed transmission in automatic or manual.

Verdict

If the checks mentioned come back negative, you're well on your way to joining the large and satisfied Civic owner's community.

On the Web

Scan code for more car reviews and news

Toyota investing $100 million in Ontario plant

Toyota's Canadian manufacturing arm says it's investing $100 million in its Cambridge, Ont., plant — a move that will see it hire 400 workers.

The investment announced Tuesday will increase the production of the company's Lexus RX models, from 30,000 vehicles to 104,000 at the southwestern Ontario facility.

Toyota Motor Manufacturing Canada Inc. says the investment includes 15,000 RX450h vehicles, the hybrid electric version of the popular Lexus, and will take its annual production capacity in Canada to 500,000 units.

"For almost nine years now, Canada has had the only Lexus production outside of Japan," TMMC chairman Ray Tanguay said in a release.

"New jobs, along with new technology, is great news for Canada."

Toyota said it is targeting early 2014 for expanded Lexus production.

"This is a big and ambitious project with new technology, exacting standards and tight timelines," said TMMC president Brian Krinock.

"Our team members have demonstrated time and time again that they thrive on these kinds of challenges."

In March, the company announced it would ramp up production of its RAV4 crossover vehicles at its Woodstock, Ont., assembly plant with an $80-million investment — a move it said would also create some 400 new jobs.

Ontario has seen traditional Detroit Three carmakers — GM, Ford and Chrysler — cut tens of thousands of jobs in the last decade as their parent companies restructured in the United States. But Toyota and Honda have expanded their operations in Ontario, Canada's manufacturing heartland.

Toyota has faced production problems due to last year's earthquake and tsunami in Japan and massive flooding in Thailand that cut parts supplies and slowed down their global output, even in Canada.

But sales have begun to spring back recently, with Toyota Canada reporting it sold 16,957 vehicles in June, 70.1 per cent more than last June.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
You may have to hurt someone's feelings but as you are doing it for the right motives, they won't hold it against you. If something difficult needs to be said, you can be counted on to say it.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
If you are unhappy with your current situation, either at home or at work, now is the time to change it. The planets will help you to make the break you have been dreaming of for months, maybe even years.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
There is no point kicking up a fuss if you get the blame for something that was not entirely your fault. The simple fact is colleagues and employers are in no mood to listen, so take the criticism then move on.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Make it your business to spread a little happiness today. If you approach life with a smile on your face it will not only help others feel better but will make things a lot easier for you as well.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
If you have overlooked details of any kind, it will become obvious today and you will have no choice but to go back and take care of them. Don't make a fuss, just do what you should have done before.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
While in one area of your life you are moving ahead in leaps and bounds, in another you are standing still, much to your frustration. Don't worry. It simply means you are not quite ready for a particular challenge.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Today's Sun-Neptune link will make you more touchy than usual, so watch out you don't get upset by the kind of petty things that would usually sail right over your head.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You may be eager to start something new but the planets advise you to bide your time and let things proceed at their own pace. That may be a slow pace by your standards but things will pick up soon enough.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
What do you want most from life? What would you wish for if you knew that your wish would come true? Well start wishing because the planets are so in your favour now that it's a case of "when", not "if".

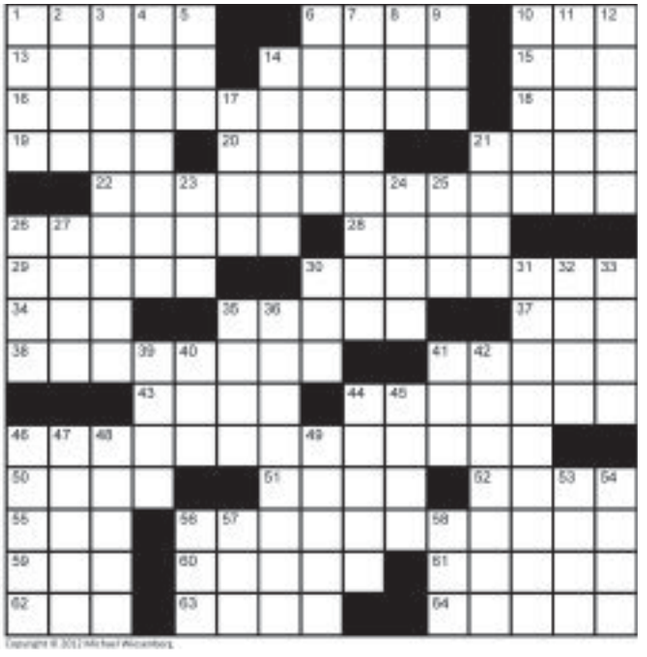
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Something you learn today will challenge your way of looking at the world. It may not be a comfortable experience but you must allow it to happen and you must allow your mind to move to a higher level.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You don't have to change course just because others do not approve of what you are doing. In fact, the more opposition you face today the more certain you can be that you are doing the right thing.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Huge changes are on the horizon, and the horizon is getting closer. Are you ready for the challenges that these upheavals will spark, both in your personal life and in your work? SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canadian Cities

BY MICHAEL WIESENBERG



Across
1. Composer Previn
6. American RCAF counterpart
10. One in elected office
13. Traditional customs
14. Memory muse
15. ___ Lingus
16. NB capital
18. Sgt.'s underling
19. Ship's spar
20. Cuba, to Cubans
21. Et ___: and others
22. Off-island suburb northwest of 38-Across
26. What's new
28. Vishnu incarnation
29. Alkenes
30. Port at the west end of Lake Ontario
34. Name of eight Eng. kings
35. It treat brains disorders, particularly Parkinson's disease
37. Messenger ___
38. 1976 Summer Games locale
41. Over
43. Norway's Patron saint
44. NHL Hall of Fame locale
46. City in Mauricie region of Quebec at confluence of Saint-Maurice and Saint Lawrence Rivers
50. Fidel's brother
51. Per ___: daily allowance
52. Biblical hit
55. Rearwards
56. Suburb of Toronto where are located the Canadian headquarters of several major international companies, including Hewlett-Packard, Microsoft, PepsiCo, General Electric, Siemens, Fujitsu, Walmart Canada
59. "___ Only Had a Brain"
60. Punster's reward
61. Novelist Sinclair who won a Pulitzer for *Dragon's Teeth* in 1943
62. Prevaricate
63. Without
64. Ale and porter

Down
1. Kind of radio
2. Nick's *Thin Man* wife
3. Chew out
4. Common North American hawk, named for its plumage color
5. Siam tail
6. What someone might cry to give up
7. Arranged an ambush
8. I love: Lat.
9. Boggy marsh
10. Symbolic Canadian leaf
11. 501s, e.g.
12. Swing's Shaw
14. Sprays
17. Encircle
21. Sea between Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan
23. Special connections
24. W. Syrian city on the Orontes River
25. Queen's recording label
26. Be crawling (with)
27. ___ China
30. Dec. 25 or Jan. 1
31. Metamorphose
32. "Step ___!": "Hurry up!"
33. Small iPod
35. Regan and Goneril's father
36. Town located halfway between Saskatoon and Regina
39. Labor
40. *Treasure Island* author, bibliographically
41. Airport monitor abbr.
42. Flips out
44. Link
45. Computer parts resellers, for short (anagram of SOME)
46. BC City on the Columbia River near the US border
47. One-named singer of children's songs
48. Certain navel, slangily
49. They're checked at some borders
53. Dr. Frankenstein's lab assistant, in films
54. Mementos of beach vacations
56. Classic British sports cars
57. A Gershwin brother
58. U-boat

Friday's crossword

What's online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

	8		5		4		3	
	5	6				7	2	
4								5
		5	3	1	9	6		
		4	6	5	2	1		
1								9
	6	2				3	8	
	7		8		5		6	

Friday's Sudoku

7	6	9	5	1	2	8	4	3
4	1	5	9	3	8	6	2	7
3	2	8	7	6	4	1	5	9
2	8	7	1	5	3	9	6	4
1	9	4	6	2	8	3	7	5
5	3	6	4	9	7	2	1	8
9	7	2	6	8	5	4	3	1
8	4	3	2	7	1	5	9	6
6	5	1	3	4	9	7	8	2

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